(v) For Technological upgradation of the industry loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Upgradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available *inter alia* to the silk sector.

(vi) In the budget .2004-05 customs duty on import of silk processing machinery has been reduced by 5% thus facilitating availability of machinery at lower prices.

(vii) Central Silk Board provides subsidy to beneficiaries through State Governments under plan schemes. It also provides technology support and training to them for their skill upgradation. During the Tenth plan period enhanced plan provision over the Ninth plan period has been made *i.e.* Rs. 450/- crores for development of Research and Technology and implementation of Central and Centrally Sponsored programmes.

Standard of sports institutes

1616. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) which of our sports and games are upto the International Standard;

(b) whether our Sports Institutes are possessing equipment and accessories of international standards to support training inputs of these sports and games; and

(c) whether the individual players of proven international standard are allowed to import equipment/accessories required to sustain or improve their standard of skills relating to games without payment of custom duty and in a hassle-free system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-RESIDENT INDIANS AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There has been resurgence in Indian sports in the recent past. In following sports and games Indian; sportspersons/teams are performing well at Asian/ Commonwealth/Olympics and world level championships:—

1. Archery 2. Athletics 3. Badminton 4. Boxing 5. Billiards & Snookers 6. Chess 7. Cricket 8. Golf 9. Hockey 10. Judo 11. Rowing 12. Shooting

13. Squash 14. Tennis 15. Table Tennis 16. Weightlifting (Women) 17.. Wrestling 18. Yatching 19. Karate 20. Volleyball 21. Kayaking & Canoeing 22. Taekwondo 23. Wushu 24. Kabaddi 25. Gymnastics

(b) Yes, Sir. Adequate facilities for training of national and international level sportspersons/teams in the above mentioned disciplines.

(c) Yes, Sir. Sports persons who are eligible as per laid down Government rules are allowed to import equipments/accessories without payment of custom duty. The procedures have also been simplified for the same for hassle-free import.

Doping by Indian weightlifters

1617. SHR ITARINIKANTA ROY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian weightlifters have tested positive in doping tests abroad even after being cleared by the SAI doping centre in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any plan to upgrade the doping centre to bring it at par with other leading doping centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-RESIDENT INDIANS AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. There have been 3 (three) cases since 2001 in which Indian weightlifters have ben tested negative at Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Dope Control Centre but tested positive abroad.

(c) The upgradation of Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Dope Control Centre is an on going process. All the mandatory equipments have been procured and commissioned, except Isotope Raio Mass Spectrometer (IRMS). The process for procurement of IRMS is under active consideration. After completing all formalities, SAI has applied